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Amalia Batka.

633 but were born of the destitution of the people and more than once endangered by political and economic pressure—have been admired and emulated, not only in Austria but throughout the world as a glorious example to others, and have been adopted as a model in many countries.

Under the Burgomasters Jakob Reumann and Karl Seitz, assisted by active and vigorous city councillors, Vienna, contrary to the dismal prophecies of those who would have preferred to see Austria vanish from the map, obstinately refused to die, but blossomed out as a reborn and flourishing city. Based on the indestructible determination of the Viennese to survive which these leaders directed and inspired, gigantic housing schemes were quickly put into practice after the collapse of 1918 and caused astonishment and admiration far beyond the frontiers of Austria.

746 The eminent physician and advocate of social reforms, Dr. Julius Tandler, based his activities on the principle that care for social welfare was a duty incumbent on all and that those in need had a right to be helped by the community. On the basis of these principles, Tandler brought into being a social welfare organisation which not only brings aid to all those who call for it, but going beyond daily necessities, seeks appropriate means to overcome helplessness itself, and to enable the needy of today to become again active and creative members of the social system. This is applied to welfare work for the youth of the city as well as

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Karl Marx-Hof

to that for adults. The Vienna Municipality has therefore set up a welfare system which makes use of welfare officials who are carefully trained for their task as well as of honorary workers who are the representations of the population and exercise the function of controlling as well as that of assisting the activities of the officials. Within the framework of this welfare organisation, and in accordance with the individual needs of certain branches of the work, there are special personnel trained in youth welfare work and others schooled in the care of tuberculosis patients. The principle of prophylaxis has been made the guiding principle of the whole public welfare service. Accordingly, welfare care begins before birth and extends to all babies and children, healthy or ailing. Every mother who applies for it receives a complete layette for her new-born child. Expectant mothers are encouraged by money grants to submit to the Wassermann test in order to combat hereditary syphilis. Medical examination of school-children at regular intervals was instituted, and women welfare workers appointed for the schools. Provision of school meals ensures that the attention of the children should not be adversely affected by hunger. School dental clinics, optical inspection at regular intervals and holiday schemes complete the programme of preventive welfare for young people of school age. A gust of

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